# BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:

IMANOEL PHARMACY, INC., DBA RX CENTRAL, MICHAEL MEHRDAD IMANOEL, ELIAHOU SALEH,

Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 51631;

and

MOSHE SELEH,

**Pharmacist License No. RPH 58075** 

Respondents.

Agency Case No. 6754

#### **DECISION AND ORDER**

The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Pharmacy, Department of Consumer Affairs, as its Decision in this matter.

This Decision shall become effective at 5:00 p.m. on May 26, 2021.

It is so ORDERED on April 26, 2021.

BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Ay 20 Ligge

By

Greg Lippe Board President

1	XAVIER BECERRA	
2	Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	NANCY A. KAISER Deputy Attorney General	
4	State Bar No. 192083 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6320	
6	Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 Attorneys for Complainant	
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8	BEFOR BOARD OF P	
9	DEPARTMENT OF CO STATE OF CA	ONSUMER AFFAIRS
10	STATE OF CA	ALIFORNA
11		1
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 6754
13	IMANOEL PHARMACY, INC., DBA RX CENTRAL, MICHAEL MEHRDAD	OAH No. 2020110716
14 15	IMANOEL, ELIAHOU SELEH 800 S. Central Ave., Ste. 101A Glendale, CA 91204-4375	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER AS TO MOSHE SELEH ONLY
16	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 51631,	SEEEH ONE I
17	and	
18	MOSHE SELEH	
19	8662 W. Cashio St. Los Angeles, CA 90035	
20	Pharmacist License No. RPH 58075	
21	Respondents.	
22		
<ul><li>23</li><li>24</li></ul>	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGR	EED by and between the parties to the above-
25	entitled proceedings that the following matters are	•
26	PART	
27		Executive Officer of the Board of Pharmacy
28	(Board). She brought this action solely in her offi	cial capacity and is represented in this matter by
		1

Xavier Becerra, Attorney General of the State of California, by Nancy A. Kaiser, Deputy Attorney General.

- 2. Respondent Moshe Seleh (Respondent) is represented in this proceeding by attorney Natalia Mazina, whose address is: 100 Pine Street, Suite 1250, San Francisco, CA 94111-5235.
- 3. On or about January 23, 2006, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 58075 to Moshe Seleh (Respondent). The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on October 31, 2021, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. Accusation No. 6754 was filed before the Board, and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on June 23, 2020. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation.
- 5. A copy of Accusation No. 6754 is attached as exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

#### ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS

- 6. Respondent has carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6754. Respondent has also carefully read, fully discussed with counsel, and understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 7. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against them; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 8. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

- Respondent understands and agrees that the charges and allegations in Accusation
   No. 6754, if proven at a hearing, constitute cause for imposing discipline upon his Pharmacy
   License.
- 10. For the purpose of resolving the Accusation without the expense and uncertainty of further proceedings, Respondent agrees that, at a hearing, Complainant could establish a factual basis for the charges in the Accusation, and that Respondent hereby gives up his right to contest those charges.
- 11. Respondent agrees that his Pharmacy License is subject to discipline, and he agrees to be bound by the Board's probationary terms as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

#### **RESERVATION**

12. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board or other professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

- 13. This stipulation shall be subject to approval by the Board of Pharmacy. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Pharmacy may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent or his counsel. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.
- 14. The parties understand and agree that Portable Document Format (PDF) and facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including PDF and facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

- 15. This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is intended by the parties to be an integrated writing representing the complete, final, and exclusive embodiment of their agreement. It supersedes any and all prior or contemporaneous agreements, understandings, discussions, negotiations, and commitments (written or oral). This Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order may not be altered, amended, modified, supplemented, or otherwise changed except by a writing executed by an authorized representative of each of the parties.
- 16. In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

#### DISCIPLINARY ORDER

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Pharmacist License Number RPH 58075 issued to Respondent Moshe Seleh (Respondent) is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for five (5) years on the following terms and conditions:

#### 1. Obey All Laws

Respondent shall obey all state and federal laws and regulations.

Respondent shall report any of the following occurrences to the Board, in writing, within seventy- two (72) hours of such occurrence:

- an arrest or issuance of a criminal complaint for violation of any provision of the
   Pharmacy Law, state and federal food and drug laws, or state and federal controlled substances laws
- a plea of guilty, or nolo contendere, no contest, or similar, in any state or federal criminal proceeding to any criminal complaint, information or indictment
- a conviction of any crime
- the filing of a disciplinary pleading, issuance of a citation, or initiation of another
  administrative action filed by any state or federal agency which involves
  Respondent's license or which is related to the practice of pharmacy or the
  manufacturing, obtaining, handling, distributing, billing, or charging for any drug,
  device or controlled substance.

Failure to timely report such occurrence shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 2. Report to the Board

Respondent shall report to the Board quarterly, on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. The report shall be made either in person or in writing, as directed. Among other requirements, Respondent shall state in each report under penalty of perjury whether there has been compliance with all the terms and conditions of probation.

Failure to submit timely reports in a form as directed shall be considered a violation of probation. Any period(s) of delinquency in submission of reports as directed may be added to the total period of probation. Moreover, if the final probation report is not made as directed, probation shall be automatically extended until such time as the final report is made and accepted by the Board.

#### 3. Interview with the Board

Upon receipt of reasonable prior notice, Respondent shall appear in person for interviews with the Board or its designee, at such intervals and locations as are determined by the Board or its designee. Failure to appear for any scheduled interview without prior notification to Board staff, or failure to appear for two (2) or more scheduled interviews with the Board or its designee during the period of probation, shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 4. Cooperate with Board Staff

Respondent shall timely cooperate with the Board's inspection program and with the Board's monitoring and investigation of Respondent's compliance with the terms and conditions of his probation, including but not limited to: timely responses to requests for information by Board staff; timely compliance with directives from Board staff regarding requirements of any term or condition of probation; and timely completion of documentation pertaining to a term or condition of probation. Failure to timely cooperate shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 5. Continuing Education

Respondent shall provide evidence of efforts to maintain skill and knowledge as a pharmacist as directed by the Board or its designee.

#### 6. Reporting of Employment and Notice to Employers

During the period of probation, Respondent shall notify all present and prospective employers of the decision in case number 6754 and the terms, conditions and restrictions imposed on Respondent by the decision, as follows:

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within ten (10) days of undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall report to the Board in writing the name, physical address, and mailing address of each of his employer(s), and the name(s) and telephone number(s) of all of his direct supervisor(s), as well as any pharmacist(s)-in- charge, designated representative(s)-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor(s) and the work schedule, if known. Respondent shall also include the reason(s) for leaving the prior employment. Respondent shall sign and return to the Board a written consent authorizing the Board or its designee to communicate with all of Respondent's employer(s) and supervisor(s), and authorizing those employer(s) or supervisor(s) to communicate with the Board or its designee, concerning Respondent's work status, performance, and monitoring. Failure to comply with the requirements or deadlines of this condition shall be considered a violation of probation.

Within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of Respondent undertaking any new employment, Respondent shall cause (a) his direct supervisor, (b) the pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager, or other compliance supervisor, and (c) the owner or owner representative of his employer, to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that the listed individual(s) has/have read the decision in case number 6754, and terms and conditions imposed thereby. If one person serves in more than one role described in (a), (b), or (c), the acknowledgment shall so state. It shall be the Respondent's responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board. In the event of a change in the person(s) serving the role(s) described in (a), (b), or (c) during the term of probation, Respondent shall cause the person(s) taking over the role(s) to report to the Board in writing within fifteen (15) days of the change acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in case number 6754, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby.

If Respondent works for or is employed by or through an employment service, Respondent must notify the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at every entity licensed by the Board of the decision in case number 6754, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby in advance of Respondent commencing work at such licensed entity. A record of this notification must be provided to the Board upon request.

Furthermore, within thirty (30) days of the effective date of this decision, and within fifteen (15) days of Respondent undertaking any new employment by or through an employment service, Respondent shall cause the person(s) described in (a), (b), and (c) above at the employment service to report to the Board in writing acknowledging that he or she has read the decision in case number, and the terms and conditions imposed thereby. It shall be Respondent's responsibility to ensure that these acknowledgment(s) are timely submitted to the Board.

Failure to timely notify present or prospective employer(s) or failure to cause the identified person(s) with that/those employer(s) to submit timely written acknowledgments to the Board shall be considered a violation of probation.

"Employment" within the meaning of this provision includes any full-time, part-time, temporary, relief, or employment/management service position as a pharmacist, or any position for which a pharmacist is a requirement or criterion for employment, whether the Respondent is an employee, independent contractor or volunteer.

### 7. Notification of Change(s) in Name, Address(es), or Phone Number(s)

Respondent shall further notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of any change in name, residence address, mailing address, e-mail address or phone number.

Failure to timely notify the Board of any change in employer, name, address, or phone number shall be considered a violation of probation.

### 8. Restrictions on Supervision and Oversight of Licensed Facilities –

During the period of probation, Respondent shall not supervise any intern pharmacist, be the pharmacist-in-charge, designated representative-in-charge, responsible manager or other compliance supervisor of any entity licensed by the Board, nor serve as a consultant. Assumption of any such unauthorized supervision responsibilities shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 9. Reimbursement of Board Costs

As a condition precedent to successful completion of probation, Respondent shall pay to the Board its costs of investigation and prosecution in the amount of \$8,345.25. Respondent shall make said payments as follows:

Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board or its designee, so long as full payment is completed no later than one (1) year prior to the end date of probation.

There shall be no deviation from this schedule absent prior written approval by the Board or its designee. Failure to pay costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 10. **Probation Monitoring Costs**

Respondent shall pay any costs associated with probation monitoring as determined by the Board each and every year of probation. Such costs shall be payable to the Board on a schedule as directed by the Board or its designee. Failure to pay such costs by the deadline(s) as directed shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 11. Status of License

Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, maintain an active, current Pharmacy License with the Board, including any period during which suspension or probation is tolled. Failure to maintain an active, current Pharmacy License shall be considered a violation of probation.

If Respondent's Pharmacy License expires or is cancelled by operation of law or otherwise at any time during the period of probation, including any extensions thereof due to tolling or otherwise, upon renewal or reapplication Respondent's license shall be subject to all terms and conditions of this probation not previously satisfied.

#### 12. License Surrender While on Probation/Suspension

Following the effective date of this decision, should Respondent cease practice due to retirement or health, or be otherwise unable to satisfy the terms and conditions of probation, Respondent may relinquish his license, including any indicia of licensure issued by the Board,

along with a request to surrender the license. The Board or its designee shall have the discretion whether to accept the surrender or take any other action it deems appropriate and reasonable. Upon formal acceptance of the surrender of the license, Respondent will no longer be subject to the terms and conditions of probation. This surrender constitutes a record of discipline and shall become a part of the Respondent's license history with the Board.

Upon acceptance of the surrender, Respondent shall relinquish his pocket and/or wall license, including any indicia of licensure not previously provided to the Board within ten (10) days of notification by the Board that the surrender is accepted if not already provided.

Respondent may not reapply for any license from the Board for three (3) years from the effective date of the surrender. Respondent shall meet all requirements applicable to the license sought as of the date the application for that license is submitted to the Board, including any outstanding costs.

#### 13. Practice Requirement – Extension of Probation

Except during periods of suspension, Respondent shall, at all times while on probation, be employed as a pharmacist in California for a minimum of 64 hours per calendar month. Any month during which this minimum is not met shall extend the period of probation by one month. During any such period of insufficient employment, Respondent must nonetheless comply with all terms and conditions of probation, unless Respondent receives a waiver in writing from the Board or its designee.

If Respondent does not practice as a pharmacist in California for the minimum number of hours in any calendar month, for any reason (including vacation), Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days of the conclusion of that calendar month. This notification shall include at least: the date(s), location(s), and hours of last practice; the reason(s) for the interruption or reduction in practice; and the anticipated date(s) on which Respondent will resume practice at the required level. Respondent shall further notify the Board in writing within ten (10) days following the next calendar month during which Respondent practices as a pharmacist in California for the minimum of hours. Any failure to timely provide such notification(s) shall be considered a violation of probation.

It is a violation of probation for Respondent's probation to be extended pursuant to the provisions of this condition for a total period, counting consecutive and non-consecutive months, exceeding thirty-six (36) months. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its website.

#### 14. Violation of Probation

If Respondent has not complied with any term or condition of probation, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction over Respondent, and the Board shall provide notice to Respondent that probation shall automatically be extended, until all terms and conditions have been satisfied or the Board has taken other action as deemed appropriate to treat the failure to comply as a violation of probation, to terminate probation, and to impose the penalty that was stayed. The Board or its designee may post a notice of the extended probation period on its website.

If Respondent violates probation in any respect, the Board, after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may revoke probation and carry out the disciplinary order that was stayed. If a petition to revoke probation or an accusation is filed against Respondent during probation, or the preparation of an accusation or petition to revoke probation is requested from the Office of the Attorney General, the Board shall have continuing jurisdiction and the period of probation shall be automatically extended until the petition to revoke probation or accusation is heard and decided, and the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 6754 shall be deemed true and correct.

#### 15. Completion of Probation

Upon written notice by the Board or its designee indicating successful completion of probation, Respondent's license will be fully restored.

#### 16. Remedial Education

Within sixty (60) days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall submit to the Board or its designee, for prior approval, an appropriate program of remedial education related to drug addiction, corresponding responsibility, and drug supply chain. The program of remedial education shall consist of at least 10 hours per year, which shall be completed at Respondent's own expense. At least 50% of the total hours must be in person or live webinar each year. All

remedial education shall be in addition to, and shall not be credited toward, continuing education (CE) courses used for license renewal purposes for pharmacists.

Failure to timely submit for approval or complete the approved remedial education shall be considered a violation of probation. The period of probation will be automatically extended until such remedial education is successfully completed and written proof, in a form acceptable to the Board, is provided to the Board or its designee.

Following the completion of each course, the Board or its designee may require the Respondent, at his own expense, to take an approved examination to test the Respondent's knowledge of the course. If the Respondent does not achieve a passing score on the examination that course shall not count towards satisfaction of this term. Respondent shall take another course approved by the Board in the same subject area.

17. **Board's One-Day Training Program.** Within the first year of probation, Respondent shall enroll in the board's one-day, six (6) hour, training program, "Preventing Prescription Drug Abuse and Drug Diversion," at Respondent's expense. Respondent shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within thirty (30) days of completion, Respondent shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the board or its designee. Failure to timely enroll in the training program, to initiate the training program during the first year of probation, to successfully complete it before the end of the second year of probation, or to timely submit proof of completion to the board or its designee, shall be considered a violation of probation.

#### 18. Ethics Course

Within sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of this decision, Respondent shall enroll in a course in ethics, at Respondent's expense, approved in advance by the Board or its designee that complies with Title 16 California Code of Regulations section 1773.5. Respondent shall provide proof of enrollment upon request. Within five (5) days of completion, Respondent shall submit a copy of the certificate of completion to the Board or its designee. Failure to timely enroll in an approved ethics course, to initiate the course during the first year of probation, to successfully complete it before the end of the second year of probation, or to timely submit proof of completion to the Board or its designee, shall be considered a violation of probation.

1	19. No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises	
2	Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor serve as a manager,	
3	administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm,	
4	partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board. Respondent shall sell	
5	or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within ninety (90)	
6	days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written	
7	proof thereof to the board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide	
8	documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation.	
9	<u>ACCEPTANCE</u>	
10	I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully	
11	discussed it with my attorney, Natalia Mazina. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will	
12	have on my Pharmacy License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order	
13	voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the	
14	Board of Pharmacy.	
15		
16	DATED:	
17	MOSHE SELEH Respondent	
18	I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Moshe Seleh the terms and conditions and	
19	other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its	
20	form and content.	
21	DATED:	
22	NATALIA MAZINA Attorney for Respondent	
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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (MOSHE SELEH) (6754)

#### 19. No Ownership or Management of Licensed Premises 1 2 Respondent shall not own, have any legal or beneficial interest in, nor serve as a manager, administrator, member, officer, director, trustee, associate, or partner of any business, firm, 3 partnership, or corporation currently or hereinafter licensed by the Board. Respondent shall sell 4 5 or transfer any legal or beneficial interest in any entity licensed by the Board within ninety (90) days following the effective date of this decision and shall immediately thereafter provide written 6 7 proof thereof to the board. Failure to timely divest any legal or beneficial interest(s) or provide documentation thereof shall be considered a violation of probation. 8 9 **ACCEPTANCE** I have carefully read the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order and have fully 10 discussed it with my attorney, Natalia Mazina. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will 11 have on my Pharmacy License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order 12 voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the 13 Board of Pharmacy. 14 15 DATED: 3/22/2021 16 MOSHE SELEH 17 Respondent 18 I have read and fully discussed with Respondent Moshe Seleh the terms and conditions and 19 other matters contained in the above Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I approve its 20 form and content. 21 DATED: 3/23/2021 22 Attorney for Respondent 23 /// 24 /// 25 /// 26 /// 27 /// 28 ///

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1		<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>	
2	The foregoing Stipulated Settle	The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully	
3	submitted for consideration by the Be	oard of Pharmacy.	
4	DATED:	Despectfully submitted	
5	DATED:	Respectfully submitted,  XAVIER BECERRA	
6 7		Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
8		Supervising Beputy Puterney General	
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10		Nancy A. Kaiser Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant	
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STIPULATED SETTLEMENT (MOSHE SELEH) (6754)

1		<u>ENDORSEMENT</u>
2	The foregoing Stipulated Settler	ment and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully
3	submitted for consideration by the Boa	ard of Pharmacy.
4	DATED: 3/23/2021	Dognoothylly oyhmittad
5	DATED: <u>0/20/2021</u>	_ Respectfully submitted,  XAVIER BECERRA
6 7		Attorney General of California ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General
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9		Nancy Kaiser
10		NANCY A. KAISER Deputy Attorney General Attorneys for Complainant
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### Exhibit A

Accusation No. 6754

1	XAVIER BECERRA Attorney General of California	
2	ARMANDO ZAMBRANO Supervising Deputy Attorney General	
3	NANCY A. KAISER  Deputy Attorney General	
4	State Bar No. 192083 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702	
5	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 269-6320	
6	Facsimile: (916) 731-2126 Attorneys for Complainant	
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8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF PHARMACY DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA	
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10	STATE OF C	ALIFORMA
11	In the Metter of the Association Assignt	Case No. 6754
12	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	ACCUSATION
13	IMANOEL PHARMACY, INC., DBA RX CENTRAL, MICHAEL MEHDDAD IMANOEL	ACCUSATION
14	MICHAEL MEHRDAD IMANOEL, ELIAHOU SELEH 800 S. Central Ave., Ste. 101A	
15	Glendale, CA 91204-4375	
16	Pharmacy Permit No. PHY 51631,	
17	and	
18 19	MOSHE SELEH 8662 W. Cashio St. Los Angeles, CA 90035	
20	Pharmacist License No. RPH 58075	
21	Respondents.	
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23		
24	<u>PART</u>	<u>TIES</u>
25	1. Anne Sodergren ("Complainant") brir	ngs this Accusation solely in her official
26	capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of	Pharmacy ("Board"), Department of Consumer
27	Affairs.	
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- 2. On or about September 11, 2013, the Board issued Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh ("Respondent Rx Central"). The Pharmacy Permit was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on September 1, 2020, unless renewed. Michael Mehrdad Imanoel is, and has been, the President and Treasurer/Chief Financial Officer, with fifty-one percent ownership, since September 11, 2013. Eliahou Seleh is, and has been, the Vice President and Secretary, with forty-nine percent ownership, since September 11, 2013. Moshe Seleh ("Respondent Moshe Seleh") was the pharmacist-in-charge beginning on September 11, 2013, until he disassociated on October 18, 2018.
- 3. On or about January 23, 2006, the Board issued Pharmacist License Number RPH 58075 to Respondent Moshe Seleh. The Pharmacist License was in full force and effect at all times relevant to the charges brought herein and will expire on October 31, 2021, unless renewed.

#### **JURISDICTION**

- 4. This Accusation is brought before the Board under the authority of the following laws. All section references are to the Business and Professions Code ("Code") unless otherwise indicated.
- 5. Section 118, subdivision (b), of the Code provides that the suspension/expiration/surrender/cancellation of a license shall not deprive the Board/Registrar/Director of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary action during the period within which the license may be renewed, restored, reissued or reinstated.
  - 6. Section 4300 of the Code states:
  - (a) Every license issued may be suspended or revoked.
  - (b) The board shall discipline the holder of any license issued by the board, whose default has been entered or whose case has been heard by the board and found guilty, by any of the following methods:
    - (1) Suspending judgment.
    - (2) Placing him or her upon probation.
    - (3) Suspending his or her right to practice for a period not exceeding on year.
    - (4) Revoking his or her license.

#### STATUTORY AUTHORITY 1 9. Section 4301 of the Code states: 2 3 The board shall take action against any holder of a license who is guilty of unprofessional conduct or whose license has been issued by mistake. Unprofessional 4 conduct includes, but is not limited to, any of the following: 5 6 (c) Gross negligence. 7 (d) The clearly excessive furnishing of controlled substances in violation of subdivision (a) of Section 11153 of the Health and Safety Code. 8 9 (f) The commission of any act involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit, or 10 corruption, whether the act is committed in the course of relations as a licensee or otherwise, and whether the act is a felony or misdemeanor or not. 11 12 (j) The violation of any of the statutes of this state, of any other state, or of the United 13 States regulating controlled substances and dangerous drugs. 14 15 (o) Violating or attempting to violate, directly or indirectly, or assisting in or abetting the violation of or conspiring to violate any provision or term of this chapter or of the 16 applicable federal and state laws and regulations governing pharmacy, including regulations established by the board or by any other state or federal regulatory agency. 17 18 Section 4306.5 of the Code states: 10. 19 Unprofessional conduct for a pharmacist may include any of the following: 20 (a) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the inappropriate exercise of his 21 or her education, training, or experience as a pharmacist, whether or not the act or omission arises in the course of the practice of pharmacy or the ownership, 22 management, administration, or operation of a pharmacy or other entity licensed by the board. 23 (b) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to exercise or 24 implement his or her best professional judgment or corresponding responsibility with regard to the dispensing or furnishing of controlled substances, dangerous drugs, or 25 dangerous devices, or with regard to the provision of services. 26

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function.

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(c) Acts or omissions that involve, in whole or in part, the failure to consult appropriate patient, prescription, and other records pertaining to the performance of any pharmacy

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(a) All records of manufacture and of sale, acquisition, receipt, shipment, or disposition of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices shall be at all times during business hours open to inspection by authorized officers of the law, and shall be preserved for at least three years from the date of making. A current inventory shall be kept by every manufacturer, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, pharmacy, veterinary foodanimal drug retailer, outsourcing facility, physician, dentist, podiatrist, veterinarian, laboratory, licensed correctional clinic, as defined in Section 4187, clinic, hospital, institution, or establishment holding a currently valid and unrevoked certificate, license, permit, registration, or exemption under Division 2 (commencing with Section 1200) of the Health and Safety Code or under Part 4 (commencing with Section 16000) of Division 9 of the Welfare and Institutions Code who maintains a stock of dangerous drugs or dangerous devices.

(b) The owner, officer, and partner of a pharmacy, wholesaler, third-party logistics provider, or veterinary food-animal drug retailer shall be jointly responsible, with the pharmacist-in-charge, responsible manager, or designated representative-in-charge, for maintaining the records and inventory described in this section.

. . .

#### 15. Section 4105 of the Code states:

(a) All records or other documentation of the acquisition and disposition of dangerous drugs and dangerous devices by any entity licensed by the board shall be retained on the licensed premises in a readily retrievable form.

. . .

- (c) The records required by this section shall be retained on the licensed premises for a period of three years from the date of making.
- (d) (1) Any records that are maintained electronically shall be maintained so that the pharmacist-in-charge, or the pharmacist on duty if the pharmacist-in-charge is not on duty, shall, at all times during which the licensed premises are open for business, be able to produce a hardcopy and electronic copy of all records of acquisition or disposition or other drug or dispensing-related records maintained electronically.

. . .

(f) When requested by an authorized officer of the law or by an authorized representative of the board, the owner, corporate officer, or manager of an entity licensed by the board shall provide the board with the requested records within three business days of the time the request was made. The entity may request in writing an extension of this timeframe for a period not to exceed 14 calendar days from the date the records were requested. A request for an extension of time is subject to the approval of the board. An extension shall be deemed approved if the board fails to deny the extension request within two business days of the time the extension request was made directly to the board.

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1	16. Section 4169 of the Code states:
2	(a) A person or entity shall not do any of the following:
3	
4	(5) Fail to maintain records of the acquisition or disposition of dangerous drugs or
5	dangerous devices for at least three years.
6	17. Section 4332 of the Code states:
7	Any person who fails, neglects, or refuses to maintain the records required by Section 4081 or who, when called upon by an authorized officer or a member of the board, fails peoplets are fixed to made a provide the records within a record
8	fails, neglects, or refuses to produce or provide the records within a reasonable time, or who willfully produces or furnishes records that are false, is guilty of a misdemeanor.
9	18. Section 4333 of the Code states:
10	(a) All prescriptions filled by a pharmacy and all other records required by Section 4081 shall be maintained on the premises and available for inspection by authorized
11	officers of the law for a period of at least three years. In cases where the pharmacy discontinues business, these records shall be maintained in a board-licensed facility for
12	at least three years.
13	
14	19. Health and Safety Code section 11153 states in pertinent part:
15	(a) A prescription for a controlled substance shall only be issued for a legitimate medical purpose by an individual practitioner acting in the usual course of his or her
16	professional practice. The responsibility for the proper prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances is upon the prescribing practitioner, but a corresponding
17	responsibility rests with the pharmacist who fills the prescription. Except as authorized by this division, the following are not legal prescriptions: (1) an order purporting to be
18	a prescription which is issued not in the usual course of professional treatment or in legitimate and authorized research; or (2) an order for an addict or habitual user of
19	controlled substances, which is issued not in the course of professional treatment or as part of an authorized narcotic treatment program, for the purpose of providing the user
20	with controlled substances, sufficient to keep him or her comfortable by maintaining customary use.
21	(b) Any person who knowingly violates this section shall be punished by imprisonment
22	in the state prison or in the county jail not exceeding one year, or by a fine not exceeding twenty thousand dollars (\$20,000), or by both a fine and imprisonment.
23	(c) No provision of the amendments to this section enacted during the second year of
<ul><li>24</li><li>25</li></ul>	the 1981-82 Regular Session shall be construed as expanding the scope of practice of a pharmacist.
26	20. Health and Safety Code Section 111330 states:
27	
	Any drug or device is misbranded if its labeling is false or misleading in any particular.
28	

1	21. Health and Safety Code Section 111440 states:
2	It is unlawful for any person to manufacture, sell, deliver, hold, or offer for sale any
3	drug or device that is misbranded.
4	22. Health and Safety Code Section 11162.1 states:
5	(a) The prescription forms for controlled substances shall be printed with the following
6	features:
7	
8	(2) A watermark shall be printed on the backside of the prescription blank; the watermark shall consist of the words "California Security Prescription."
9	
10	(4) A feature printed in thermochromic ink.
11	
12	(13) An identifying number assigned to the approved security printer by the
13	Department of Justice.
14	
<ul><li>15</li><li>16</li></ul>	(b) Each batch of controlled substance prescription forms shall have the lot number printed on the form and each form within that batch shall be numbered sequentially
17	beginning with the numeral one.
1 /	•••
18	23. Health and Safety Code Section 11164 states in part: :
19	Except as provided in Section 11167, no person shall prescribe a controlled substance, nor
20	shall any person fill, compound, or dispense a prescription for a controlled substance, unless it complies with the requirements of this section.
21	unless it complies with the requirements of this section.
22	(a) Each prescription for a controlled substance classified in Schedule II, III, IV, or V, except as authorized by subdivision (b), shall be made on a controlled substance
23	prescription form as specified in Section 11162.1
24	STATE REGULATORY AUTHORITY
25	STATE REGULATORT AUTHORITI
26	24. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1761, states:
27	(a) No pharmacist shall compound or dispense any prescription which contains any significant error, omission, irregularity, uncertainty, ambiguity or alteration. Upon
28	receipt of any such prescription, the pharmacist shall contact the prescriber to obtain the information needed to validate the prescription.

(b) Even after conferring with the prescriber, a pharmacist shall not compound or dispense a controlled substance prescription where the pharmacist knows or has objective reason to know that said prescription was not issued for a legitimate medical purpose.

#### COSTS

25. Section 125.3 of the Code states, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

#### **DRUGS**

26. Oxycodone 30 mg is the generic name for "Roxicodone." It is a Schedule II controlled substance pursuant to Health and Safety Code section 11055, subdivision (b)(1)(M) and is a dangerous drug pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 4022. Oxycodone is a narcotic analgesic used for moderate to severe pain and it has a high potential for abuse.

#### FACTUAL ALLEGATION

- 27. On May 8, 2018, a Board Inspector inspected Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy, owned by Michael Imanoel and Eliahou Seleh, who are also licensed as pharmacist with the Board. Respondent Moshe Seleh was the pharmacist-in-charge beginning on September 11, 2013, until he disassociated on October 18, 2018.
- 28. Following the inspection, a Board inspector requested an electronic file which contained all prescriptions filled and dispensed from May 8, 2015 through May 8, 2018, from the pharmacy. The pharmacy provided an Excel file containing records of all prescriptions dispensed at Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy from May 8, 2015 through May 8, 2018, which included prescriptions by Dr. Richard Goldstein and Dr. Bruce Stark. The dispensing record indicated Respondent Moshe Seleh was the responsible pharmacist for all the prescriptions from Drs. Goldstein and Stark.
- 29. The Board inspector also collected thirty (30) prescription documents from December 13, 2014 through April 2, 2015, regarding Dr. Steven Kaye. Respondent Moshe Seleh was pharmacist-in-charge at the time the prescriptions were filled.

- 30. The Board's inspection and subsequent investigation revealed that between December 17, 2014 and May 8, 2018, Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy dispensed 740 controlled substance prescriptions from three prescribers after ignoring or failing to recognize multiple objective factors which showed the prescriptions were irregular and not medically legitimate prescriptions. 355 of these prescriptions were for oxycodone 30 mg. The objective factors of illegitimacy, irregularity, and abuse included, but were not limited to the following:
- (a) Oxycodone 30 mg tablets accounted for an unusually large percent of each physician's total prescribing.
  - i. Oxycodone 30 mg was Dr. Goldstein's most commonly prescribed medication, accounting for 43.62% of his total prescriptions.
  - ii. Oxycodone 30 mg was also Dr. Stark's most commonly prescribed medication accounting for 36% of his total prescribing.
- iii. All 74 controlled substance prescriptions from Dr. Kaye filled at RespondentRx Central Pharmacy were written for oxycodone 30 mg.
- (b) Every patient of all three prescribers received at least one prescription for oxycodone30 mg.
- (c) All three prescribers prescribed immediate release oxycodone exclusively in the highest available strength.
- (d) Each of the prescribers' prescriptions were purchased almost exclusively in cash, without the aid of prescription insurance.
- (e) Additionally, the labels affixed to the back of the prescription documents indicated patients paid \$600 for 120 oxycodone 30 mg tablets
- (f) There were numerous instances when Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy processed similar or identical prescriptions from each prescriber on the same day and the prescriptions were assigned consecutive prescription numbers.
- (g) There were instances when Patient Activity Reports affixed to the prescriptions in question indicated patients receiving oxycodone 30 mg tablets had not received a controlled substance from a California Pharmacy in the previous three months.

- (h) Many patients of these prescribers travelled unusual distances from their homes to Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy to obtain prescriptions.
- (i) There were inconsistencies in the verification documents affixed to Dr. Stark's prescriptions including that the medications listed as previously tried and failed on the verification documents did not appear on any of the patients' Patient Activity Reports.
- (j) Prescription documents from Drs. Goldstein and Stark did not conform to the requirements of Health and Safety Code Section 11162.1 because they lacked lot numbers, identifying numbers assigned to approved security printer, features in thermochromic ink, and "California Security Prescription" watermarks.
- 31. Despite these irregularities, the prescription documents collected did not contain documentation indicating Respondent Moshe Seleh contacted the prescribers in question to address the irregularities prior to filling the prescriptions.
- 32. The investigation also determined that the seventy (70) of the prescriptions did not conform to the requirements of pharmacy law as follows:
- (a) Twelve (12) prescription documents from Dr. Stark lacked a lot number, an identifying number assigned to the approved security printer, and a "California Security Prescription" watermark.
- (b) Six (6) of the prescription documents from Dr. Goldstein lacked a lot number, a feature in thermochromic ink, and a "California Security Prescription" watermark.
- (c) Twenty-six (26) of the prescription documents from Dr. Goldstein lacked an identifying number assigned to the approved security printer, a feature in thermochromic ink, and a "California Security Prescription" watermark.
- (d) Twenty-six (26) of the prescription documents from Dr. Goldstein lacked an identifying number assigned the approved security printer and a "California Security Prescription" watermark.
- 33. On July 26, 2018, the Department of Health Care Services ("DHCS") conducted an on-site visit of Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy. The DHCS team planned to return the following day with a pharmacy board inspector but the pharmacy was not open.

- 34. During the visit, the DHCS team observed numerous "returned to stock" bottles on the inventory shelves. The team identified instances where the labels on the return to stock bottles were not accurate, such as the product description on the prescription label did not match the units in the bottles. Specifically, six (6) bottles on the inventory shelves had inaccurate product information on the label as follows:
- (a) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "Vitamin B Complex, Bottle 04/30/2018" and indicated the contents should be maroon capsules but the bottle contained yellow tablets.
- (b) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "Diclofenac 50 mg tablets" and indicated the contents should be round brown tablets with the imprint GG 738 but the bottle contained white tablets imprinted with CTI 102.
- (c) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "MAPAP 325 mg tablets" and indicated the contents should be white tablets imprinted with GPI/A325 but the bottle contained white tablets imprinted with GPI/A5.
- (d) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "Calcium 500 + D 400, bottle dated 06/08/2018" and indicated the contents should be dark green tablets but the bottle contained off-white tablets.
- (e) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "Methimazole 5 mg" and indicated the contents should be white tablets imprinted with EM/5 but the bottle contained white tablets imprinted with HP 70.
- (f) A bottle's visible prescription information was labeled as "Docusate 100 mg" and indicated the contents should be orange capsules imprinted with P51 but the bottle contained red and white capsules imprinted with SCU2.
- 35. Additionally, the DHCS team observed that the patient information was not completely obscured, and so the DHCS team accessed Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy's dispensing records to confirm the transactions were reversed. There were numerous instances when the pharmacy records indicated the transactions were not reversed. In these cases, the originally filled bottle was found on the pharmacy's shelves, indicating the patient did not receive

substances, with an established history of a high potential for abuse, despite multiple cues of irregularity and uncertainty related to patient and prescriber factors, and in failing to comply with their corresponding responsibility to ensure that controlled substances are dispensed for a legitimate medical purpose. Complainant refers to, and by this reference, incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 27 through 37, as though set forth fully.

#### THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

(Misbranded Medications in Inventory)

#### Health and Safety Code Section 111330 & Health and Safety Code Section 111440

40. Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy and Respondent Moshe Seleh are subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivision (j), of the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, for violating Health and Safety Code sections and 111330 and 111440, by holding misbranded drugs. Specifically, on or about July 26, 2018, six (6) bottles on the inventory shelves at Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy contained different product than the information identified on the bottles' labels. Complainant refers to, and by this reference, incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 27 through 37, as though set forth fully.

#### **FOURTH CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE**

#### (Unprofessional Conduct)

41. Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy is subject to disciplinary action under section 4301, subdivisions (f), in that Respondents committed acts involving moral turpitude, dishonesty, fraud, deceit or corruption. Specifically on eighteen (18) instances between January 2016 and April 2018, Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy failed to reverse the processing of a prescription which was not received by the patient. In failing to reverse these transactions, Respondent Rx Central Pharmacy billed insurance companies for products and services not provided to patients. Complainant refers to, and by this reference, incorporates the allegations set forth above in paragraphs 27 through 37, as though set forth fully.

#### **OTHER MATTERS**

42. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel,

Eliahou Seleh while Moshe Seleh has been a pharmacist-in-charge and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Moshe Seleh shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if it is revoked.

- 43. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh while Michael Mehrdad Imanoel has been an owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if it is revoked.
- 44. Pursuant to Code section 4307, if discipline is imposed on Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh while Eliahou Seleh has been an owner and had knowledge of or knowingly participated in any conduct for which the licensee was disciplined, Eliahou Seleh shall be prohibited from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if it is revoked.

#### **DISCIPLINE CONSIDERATIONS**

- 45. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Moshe Seleh, Complainant alleges that on or about September 26, 2013, in a prior action, the Board of Pharmacy issued Citation Number CI 2013 58283 and ordered Respondent Moshe Seleh to pay an administrative fine of \$4,500.00. That citation is now final.
- 46. To determine the degree of discipline, if any, to be imposed on Respondent Moshe Seleh, Complainant alleges that on or about September 26, 2013, in a prior action, the Board of Pharmacy issued Citation Number CI 2013 58283 and ordered Respondent Moshe Seleh to pay an administrative fine of \$4,500.00. That Citation is now final.

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#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board of Pharmacy issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631, issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh;
- 2. Revoking or suspending Pharmacist License Number RPH 58075, issued to Moshe Seleh;
- 3. Prohibiting Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh (PHY 51631) from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh is revoked;
- 4. Prohibiting Moshe Seleh from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh is revoked;
- 5. Prohibiting Michael Mehrdad Imanoel from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh is revoked;
- 6. Prohibiting Eliahou Seleh from serving as a manager, administrator, owner, member, officer, director, associate, or partner of a licensee for five years if Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is placed on probation or until Pharmacy Permit Number PHY 51631 is reinstated if Pharmacy Permit Number 51631 issued to Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel, Eliahou Seleh is revoked;

1	7. Ordering Imanoel Pharmacy, Inc., dba Rx Central, Michael Mehrdad Imanoel,
2	Eliahou Seleh and Moshe Seleh to pay the Board of Pharmacy the reasonable costs of the
3	investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section
4	125.3; and,
5	8. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.
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7	
8	DATED: May 19, 2020
9	ANNE SODERGREN Executive Officer
10	Board of Pharmacy
11	Department of Consumer Affairs State of California Complainant
12	Сотрший
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